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A
LETTER
SENT FROM
HIS EXCELLENCY
SIR

Thomas Fairfax,
AND
The chief Commanders in the Army.

TO THE
Right Honourable the Lord Major,
Aldermen, and Common-Councill
of the City of
LONDON.

LONDON,
Printed by Richard Cotes, 1647.

For the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor,
Aldermen, and Common-Councill of the City of
LONDON.

Right Honourable and
Worthy Friends,

HAVING by our Letters and other Addreses,
presented by our Generall to the Honorable
House of Commons, endeavoured to give
satisfaction of the clearness of our just demands; and
also in Papers published by us remonstrated the
grounds of our proceedings in prosecution where-
of, all which having been expoied to publick view
we are confident have come to your hands, and at
least received a charitable construction from you;
The sum of all which our desires, as Souldiers, are no
other then a desire of satisfaction to our demands,
as Souldiers, and reparation upon those who have
to the utmost improved all opportunities and ad-
vantages by false suggestions, misrepresentation,
and otherwise for the destruction of this Army,
with a perpetuall blot of ignominy upon it, which
we should not value, if it singly concerned our own
particulars, being ready to deny our selves in this, as

wee have done in other cases for the Kingdomes
~~good~~ ~~that~~ ~~under~~ ~~this~~ ~~pretence~~ ~~fiddling~~ ~~no~~ ~~little~~ ~~is~~
 involved in it, then the overthrow of the Priviledges
 both of Parliament and People, wherein rather then
 they ~~shall~~ ~~fall~~ ~~in~~ ~~their~~ ~~designes~~, we cannot receive
 what in the eyes of all good men is just, endea-
 voureth to engage the Kingdom in a new War,
 and this singly by those, who when the truth of
 these things shall be made to appear, will be found
 the Authors of these evils that are feared, as having
 no other way to protect themselves from question
 and punishment, but by putting the Kingdom into
 blood, under pretences of the Honour of, and their
 love to the Parliament, as if that were dearer to
 them then us, or as if they had given greater proof
 of their faithfulness to it then we: But we per-
 ceive that under these veiles and pretences, they
 seek to interest their design in the City of London,
 as if that City ought to make good their miscarria-
 ges and should prefer a few self-seeking men before
 the welfare of the Publick; and indeed we have
 found these men so active to accomplish their de-
 signs, and to have such apt instruments for their
 turn in that City that we have cause to suspect they
 may engage many therein upon mistakes, which are
 easily swallowed in times of such prejudice against
 men

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men that have given (we may speak it without vanity) the most publick testimony of their good affections to the Publick, & to that City in particular.

For the thing wee insist upon as English men, and surely our being Souldiers hath not stript us of that interest, although our malicious enemies would have it so; vvee desire a settlement of the Peace of the Kingdome, and of the Liberties of the Subject, according to the Votes, and Declarations of Parliament; vvhich before vve tooke up Armes vvere by the Parliament used as arguments and inducements to invite us and diuers of our deare friends out, some of vvhich have lost their lives in this Warre; vvhich being by Gods blessing finished, vve thinke vve have as much right to demand and desire to see a happy settlement, as vve have to our money, and the other common interest of Souldiers vvhich vve have insisted upon: We find also the ingenuous and honest people, in almost all the parts of the Kingdome vvhich vvee come, full of the sense of ruine and misery, if the Army should bee disbanded, before the Peace of the Kingdome, and those other things before mentioned, have a full and perfect settlement.

We have said before, and professe it now, we desire no alteration of the civill government.

We desire not to intermeddle with, or in the least to interrupt the settling of the Presbyteriall Government: nor doe we seeke to open a way to licentious libertie under pretence of obtaining ease for tender consciences; wee professe as ever in these things, when the State have once made a settlement, we have nothing to say but to submit or suffer, onely wee could wish that every good Citizen, and every man that walkes peaceably in a blamelesse conversation, and is beneficiall to the Common-wealth, may have libertie and encouragement; it being according to the just policie of all States, even to justice it selfe.

These in briebe are our desires, and the things for which wee stand, beyond which we shall not goe, & for the obtaining these things we are drawing neer your Citie; professing sincerely from our hearts wee intend not evill towards you, declaring with all confidence and assurance that if you appear not against us in these our just desires to assist that wicked partie that would imbroyle us and the Kingdome, nor wee nor our Souldiers shall give you the least offence, wee come not to doe any act to prejudice the being of Parliaments, or to the hurt of this in order to the present settlement of the Kingdome; Wee seeke the good of all, and we shall

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shall here waite, or remove to a further distance there to abide, if once wee bee assured that a speedy settlement of things bee in hand, untill they bee accomplished; which done, wee shall bee most ready either all of us, or so many of the Army as the Parliament shall thinke fit, to disband or goe for *Ireland*; And although you may suppose that a rich Citie may seeme an inticing baite to poor hungry Souldiers to venture farre to gaine the wealth thereof, yet if not provoked by you, wee doe professe rather then any such evill should fall out the Souldiers shall make their way through our blood to effect it, and we can say this for most of them, for your better assurance, that they so little value their pay in comparison of higher concerns to a publique good, that rather then they will be unrighted in the matter of their honesty and integritie, which hath suffered by the men they ayme at, and desire justice upon, or want the settlement of the kingdomes peace, and theirs with their fellow Subjects Liberties, they will lose all; which may bee a strong assurance to you, that it's not your wealth they seeke, but the things tending in common to your and their welfare that they may attaine, you shall doe like fellow Subjects and Brethren if that you sollicite the Parliament for them, and on their behalfe.

If

If after all this, you, or a considerable part of you
bee seduced to take up Armes in opposition to, or
hindrance of these our just undertakings; Wee
hope by this brotherly premonition, to the sinceri-
tie whereof we call God to witnesse, we have freed
our selves from all that ruine vvhich may befall
that great and populous Citie, having thereby
vvaisted our hands thereof, yvee rest.

Your affectionate friends to serve you,

*Roxton June
10, 1647.*

Thomas Fairfax.

Oliver Cromwell.

Robert Hamond.

Thomas Hamond.

Hardresse Waller.

Nath. Rich.

Thomas Pride.

Francis Ireton.

Robert Lilborne.

John Disbrowe.

Thomas Rainsborow.

Lambert.

Harrison.